

MEMORIAL

OF

INHABITANTS OF BOSTON, AND ITS VICINITY,

ADVERSE TO AN INCREASE OF DUTY ON

IMPORTED WOOLLEN GOODS.

FEBRUARY 26, 1827.

Printed by order of the Senate of the United States.

WASHINGTON :

PRINTED BY GALES & SEATON.

1827.

[88]

NEW CONGRESS
IN SESSION

MEMORIAL

IN HABITANTS OF BOSTON AND ITS VICINITY

APPEARED TO AN INCREASE OF 100,000

IMPORTED WOOLLEN GOODS.

FEBRUARY 20, 1867.

Printed by order of the Senate of the United States.

W. H. RAYMOND :

PRINTED AT THE SENATE OFFICE.

1867.

MEMORIAL.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled :

The memorial of the undersigned, inhabitants of the city of Boston, and its vicinity, respectfully represents : That they have regarded, with the deepest interest, the various measures which have been brought before Congress, for several years past, for the purpose of affording encouragement to the domestic manufactures of the United States, by enhancing the duties on imported articles of foreign growth and manufacture. Your memorialists are fully aware of the delicacy with which a subject, so intimately connected with the industry of the community, and the great interests of society, should be approached, and the discernment, experience, and matured wisdom upon which all measures, so deeply affecting the vital interests of society, should be founded : still, having, after much reflection, aided by considerable experience, become fully convinced that any further increase on the duties now charged upon certain species of woollen goods, would be productive of great injury to the United States, taking into one comprehensive view its most extensive and important interests, we beg leave most respectfully to express this opinion, in reference to the measure now before Congress, upon that subject. Your memorialists express this opinion the more readily, from a conviction, that a measure of this description must derive its support mainly from the aid of strong and enlightened public opinion ; and because they believe that it has been usually represented, and believed, that public opinion, in this part of the United States, was in favor of the proposed increase of duties on woollen goods. Had the attention of this section of the United States been earlier awakened upon this subject, your memorialists entertain no doubt that vast numbers would have concurred with them in the opinions here expressed, and that very numerous memorials would have afforded unquestionable proof of a strong prevailing public opinion against the policy of further extending the duties on certain species of imported woollen goods, in the manner now proposed.

Your memorialists are firmly convinced that the proposed increase of duty, by further multiplying the restrictions upon commerce, would paralyze many branches of useful industry, and be productive of extensive injury. But they have neither time, nor is there occasion, at this late moment of the session, to go into the general argument upon the subject. They, therefore, at the present moment, confine themselves to the expression of their opinion, a strong and deliberate opinion, against the measure, and their earnest hope that this great change of policy, in regard to the most important interests of the country, will not be adopted, without mature deliberation, and a clear and decided expression of public opinion, in its favor.

Boston, February 19th, 1827.

MEMORIAL.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled :

The memorial of the undersigned, inhabitants of the city of Boston, and its vicinity, respectfully represents : That they have regarded with the deepest interest, the various measures which have been proposed before Congress for several years past, for the purpose of affording encouragement to the domestic manufacture of the United States, by enhancing the duties on imported articles of foreign growth and manufacture. Your memorialists are fully aware of the policy with which a subject so intimately connected with the industry of the community, and the great interests of society, should be approached, and the discrimination, experience, and matured wisdom upon which all measures so deeply affecting the vital interests of society, should be founded : still, having after much reflection, aided by considerable experience, become fully convinced that any further increase on the duties now charged upon certain species of woollen goods, would be productive of great injury to the United States, taking into one comprehensive view its domestic and important interests, we beg leave most respectfully to express this opinion, in reference to the measures now before Congress upon that subject. Your memorialists express this opinion the more readily from a conviction, that a measure of this description must derive its support mainly from the aid of strong and well founded public opinion ; and because they believe that it has been generally misapprehended, and believed, that public opinion in this part of the United States, was in favor of the proposed increase of duties on woollen goods. Had the attention of this section of the United States been earlier directed upon this subject, your memorialists entertain no doubt that various measures would have been concerted with them in the opinion here expressed, and that very numerous memorialists would have afforded unquestionable proof of a strong prevailing public opinion against the policy of further extending the duties on certain species of imported woollen goods in the manner now proposed. Your memorialists are fully convinced that the proposed increase of duty, by further multiplying the restrictions upon commerce, would prevent many branches of useful industry, and be productive of excessive injury. That they have neither more, nor is there occasion, at this late moment of the session, to go into the general argument upon the subject. They therefore to the greatest possible brevity, confine themselves to the expression of their opinion, without any elaborate reasoning against its expediency, and to the statement that the great object of public policy, in regard to the most important interests of the country, should not be adopted, without mature deliberation, and a clear and decided expression of public opinion in its favor.

Witness our hands and seals, this 15th day of February 1837.